

ROBERT EDWARD VARNER, 1921-2006
JUDGE, MIDDLE DISTRICT OF ALABAMA, 1971-2000

Judge Robert Varner is a native of Tuskegee, Alabama, who was educated at Auburn University and received his law degree from the University of Alabama in 1949. He served in World War II as a U.S. Naval Aviator Lieutenant. He practiced law in Tuskegee from 1949 to 1954, after which he was Assistant U.S. Attorney for the Middle District of Alabama from 1954 to 1958. From 1958 to 1971, he was in private practice in Montgomery.



In 1971, President Richard M. Nixon appointed Varner to a new seat on the U.S. District Court, Middle District of Alabama. The nomination was confirmed in April 1971. From 1979 to 1984, Judge Varner was Chief Judge of the Court.

Judge Varner assumed senior status in 1986. He retired in 2000 and died at the age of 84 in 2006.